

London is increasing at the rate of 70,000 a year, it is obvious that enough must be done to prevent the continuance of the support which the city has always commanded.

The Mayor will make another of his regular afternoon excursions to the Hawkesbury River to-morrow, leaving the wharf at foot of the station at 2 o'clock sharp, and returning at 4 o'clock. The excursion will be a most enjoyable one, and will give the Mayor an opportunity to see the river in its most beautiful aspect.

The week-end railway excursion to the Hawkesbury River in connection with the steamship General will run to-morrow, and will be a most enjoyable one.

A lot of stone-work in the counties of Cumberland and Camden will be on view at all places of business in the districts named after the 15th inst.

We have received from the Secretary of the National Union of New South Wales a copy of a memorial which that body is presenting to the members of both Houses of Parliament on the subject of the proposed alterations in the Electoral Act.

The Board of the New South Wales Legislative Council, under the direction of the Hon. Mr. Justice, has decided to accept the proposal of the Hon. Mr. Justice, and to amend the Electoral Act accordingly.

The report of the Hon. Mr. Justice on the subject of the proposed alterations in the Electoral Act, has been received from the Secretary of the National Union of New South Wales.

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SPECIAL CABLES.

FROM THE HERALD'S LONDON CORRESPONDENTS.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

CHINESE CONCESSIONS TO RUSSIA.

LONDON, March 15.

Major von Hanneken, who was commissioned by the Emperor of China to order the Chinese army, has abandoned his task, and has retired from the Chinese service.

A strong Japanese squadron threatens to make a descent upon Kelung and Tamsui, in the island of Formosa.

Japan will use the Pescadore Islands, off the west coast of Formosa, as a base against Southern China.

It is reported that China has offered to make concessions to Russia in return for her assistance in bringing about peace with Japan.

INCREASE IN THE RUSSIAN NAVY.

Russia is building four new ironclads and six cruisers, besides 22 torpedo boats.

FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

DEPARTURE OF TROOPS FROM PARIS.

The first contingent of troops to form the French expeditionary force to Madagascar left Paris to-day.

AFAIRS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

SWAZILAND AND THE BOERS.

The King of the Swazis, who has taken measures to resist the Boer occupation of Swaziland, has met the Transvaal Commission on the borders of Swaziland.

THE GALES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

SUPPOSED LOSS OF A SPANISH MAN-OF-WAR.

A quantity of wreckage has been washed ashore at Tarifa, a port on the south coast of Spain, near Gibraltar, and has been recognised as belonging to the Spanish man-of-war Reina Regente, which has long been overdue.

It is feared that the Reina Regente has been wrecked, and that all on board have perished. There were 400 officers and men on board when she sailed.

THE OROYA.

The heavy gale blowing in the Bay of Naples has driven the Oroya further ashore, and the vessel is now labouring heavily.

DEATH OF MR. GERMAN REED.

The death is announced of Mr. T. German Reed, the well-known musician and public entertainer.

German Reed early in life entered eagerly into the musical world of London. He was one of the first members of the Society of British Musicians. In 1844 he married Miss F. H. Reed, an actress and contralto singer, and in 1845 started a new class of performance, which was a success. He was a member of the Society of British Musicians, and was a member of the Society of British Musicians.

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VICTORIA.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

RAILWAY TO MILDURA.

The Railway Standing Committee look forward to-day regarding the proposed railway to Mildura and Renmark. The Engineer-in-Chief strongly recommended the line.

Parliament has been further prorogued till the 22nd inst. The Premier does not intend to call Parliament together till the week after Easter.

Three more warships arrived in the bay to-day, viz., the Royalist, the Ringarooma, and the Rapid.

Auction sale of properties owned by the South Melbourne Permanent Building and Investment Society was held to-day. The bidding for the principal properties was brisk, and the sale realised £15,185.

At a conference of the Australian National Association to-day it was resolved to send a letter to the Premier of New South Wales expressing hearty approval of the steps being taken to forward the federal cause.

The value of imports last month were £290,465, as compared with £385,542 for the corresponding month of last year. The exports last month were £286,926, as compared with £295,248 for the corresponding month of last year.

The final meeting of the Tariff Board for taking evidence was held to-day. The principal subject dealt with was the duty on imported goods.

The Railway Commissioners have decided to inflict penalties on five employees for negligence in connection with the recent railway accident at Macdonald. The employees are: James Macdonald, J. J. Macdonald, J. J. Macdonald, J. J. Macdonald, J. J. Macdonald.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ART AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

The Chamber of Manufactures' Art and Industrial Exhibition was opened in the Jubilee Exhibition-buildings this evening, in the presence of a large and brilliant audience. The exhibition is a success, and the public are much interested in it.

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COUNTRY NEWS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

BANK MANAGERS AS JURORS.

The local bench of magistrates has received a circular giving the opinion of the Solicitor-General on the question as to whether bank managers are liable to serve as jurors. Mr. Reid's opinion is that bank managers are exempt from jury duty, but must be placed on the special jury list.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY AT GOULBURN.

The Bishop of Salisbury arrived last night, and was received by the Bishop of Goulburn, members of the clergy, and some members of the Cathedral Council. This morning, Bishop Wordsworth was the celebrant at Holy Communion, and to-night he preached at St. Saviour's Cathedral, after which he was presented with an address of welcome.

A FATAL QUARREL.

James Hannan, bookkeeper at Mount Allen, was admitted to hospital last night after a quarrel with a woman named Mrs. J. Hannan. The information received is that the deceased had words over money matters with a man named Hannan, who was a bookkeeper, and the latter, falling on the back of his head, was rendered insensible. All efforts by the local people to restore consciousness were unavailing, and Hannan was brought to the Hillside Hospital, where he succumbed, as stated. An inquiry will be held by Mr. B. W. Stewart, the acting coroner.

ALBURY, Thursday.

A farewell address and testimonial were presented to-night to the Rev. Father McGrath on his transfer to Young.

CARCOAR, Thursday.

The local land board, of which Mr. J. J. Finch, J.P., is chairman, and Mr. W. H. Platt, J.P., is a member, concluded a two-days' sitting here last evening.

An inquiry was conducted to-day before Mr. J. J. Finch, J.P., at Carcoar, and a jury of 12, over the fire at Ashburn, near Carcoar, when a kitchen was burnt. The inmates of the adjoining house narrowly escaped, but for the discovery of the fire, the house and its contents would have been consumed.

COWRA, Thursday.

It is announced that Mr. Sydney Smith, Minister for Mines, will arrive here on Saturday morning, and will be accompanied by Mr. J. J. Finch, J.P., and Mr. W. H. Platt, J.P.

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involved. Departures also wait-
longers nearly every day. Yesterday
from Stockton, consisting of Mr. Dick,
Mayor of Stockton, and others, waited
passengers with regard to the attach-
ment from Stockton. Mr. Lons-
dale from Armidale protested against the
so large a suburban area to the existing
Mr. Carroll, M.L.A., on behalf of
Armidale, Cudgellico, and Nymagoe, pre-
sented praying that the proposed shire
should be divided into four separate
municipalities.

